

## CHANNELS

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Approved For Release 2000/08/31 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100180038-8

SECRET

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CIA/DCI/WHIZWH 741114

CIA/WHSS

SENSITIVE

SOURCE REF:

ROUTING	1	4	7	10
	2	5	8	11
	3	6	9	12

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR FAZIO.4  
WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS  
INVOLVED

ITEM NO: WH-3

DATE: 14 NOVEMBER 1974

SUBJECT: REPORTED INDIAN DECISION TO PURCHASE MIG-23 FLOGGER  
AIRCRAFT 25X1A2g

REF :

25 1X6

THE INDIANS HAVE DECIDED TO PURCHASE 50 MIG-23 FLOGGERS FROM THE  
USSR. FOR FINANCIAL REASONS, THE MIG-23 IS INDIA'S MOST LIKELY  
CHOICE, BUT SUCH A DECISION HAS NOT BEEN CONFIRMED.

FINANCIAL REASONS ASIDE, ACTUALLY THE INDIAN AIR FORCE HAS  
CONTINUALLY INDICATED A PREFERENCE FOR THE BRITISH JAGUAR. THE  
AIR FORCE HAS BEEN UNWILLING TO ACCEPT THE MIG-23 BECAUSE OF ITS  
SHORT RANGE, INABILITY TO REACH A SPEED OF MACH 2, AND INFERIOR  
NAVIGATIONAL SYSTEM. THE INDIANS ALSO ARE WORRIED THAT THE  
VARIABLE WING AIRCRAFT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO MAINTAIN, ESPECIALLY  
INLIGHT OF PREVIOUS SUPPLY PROBLEMS WITH THE SOVIETS.

DATE:

ORIG:

UNIT:

EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

CLASSIFICATION

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

E 2 IMP

CL BY:

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FORM  
1-74 4C

USE PREVIOUS  
EDITIONS

# OUTGOING MESSAGE

COMINT

CHANNELS

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2 2

CLASSIFICATION

S NFD

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

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SOURCE REF:

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

IF A DECISION TO BUY THE MIG-23 RATHER THAN THE JAGUAR HAS BEEN MADE, THE CONTRACT PROBABLY HAS NOT BEEN SIGNED YET. MOST DEALS OF THIS MAGNITUDE ARE FINALIZED BY THE CHIEF OF THE SERVICE INVOLVED OR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE. INDIA'S SECRETARY OF DEFENSE HAS NOT BEEN TO MOSCOW SINCE EARLY SUMMER, AND ALTHOUGH THE CHIEF OF THE AIR FORCE HAD BEEN SCHEDULED TO VISIT MOSCOW IN AUGUST, THE TRIP WAS CANCELLED BECAUSE OF THE UNRESOLVED MIG-23 ISSUE.

A REPORT OF LAST JUNE [REDACTED] 25X1X6 INDICATED THAT THE MIG-23 DEAL WOULD INCLUDE LICENSED PRODUCTION OF THE AIRCRAFT BEGINNING IN 1978. THE CURRENT REPORT, HOWEVER, PROVIDES NO CONTRACT DETAILS. E-2 IMPDET.H

(SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: MEA DIV AND NIO [REDACTED]

25X1A9a

DATE: 14 NOV 74  
ORIG: [REDACTED] WHSS  
UNIT: CIA OPS CTR  
EXT: 9340

25X1A9a

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E-2 IMPDET  
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